



PATENT APPLICATION

OML

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Shigenobu NAKAMURA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3682

Application No.: 10/041,634

Examiner: B. Van Pelt

Filed: January 10, 2002

Docket No.: 111650

For: ENGINE AUXILIARY UNIT DRIVING EQUIPMENT

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

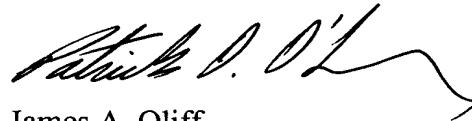
In reply to the March 6, 2003 Election of Species Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Species E, Figure 6, with traverse. At least claims 1, 2 and 6 read on the elected species. At least claims 1 and 2 are generic to all species.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-6 is sufficiently related such that thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass the search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application could be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in



order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office. Thus, withdrawal of the Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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